

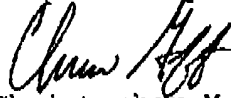
KCC 4779 (K-C 17,026)
PATENT

REMARKS

Applicants note that the Office refers to the February 18, 2004 submission of Amendment A as the non-complying amendment document in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. However, Applicants respectfully note that Amendment A, which was filed in response to the Office Action dated March 17, 2003, was originally submitted via facsimile on June 16, 2003, prior to the Office implementing the amended requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. Amendment A was then resubmitted via facsimile on July 30, 2003 after Applicants noticed on PAIR that Amendment A had not been entered. On November 3, 2003, Applicants received a Notification of Abandonment for failure to timely file a proper reply to the Office Action. In response, Applicants again resubmitted Amendment A on November 6, 2003 with a Petition Requesting Withdrawal of the Holding of Abandonment of a Patent Application Under 37 C.F.R. §1.181. Again, Applicants checked PAIR and noticed that Amendment A had not been entered. As such, Applicants resubmitted Amendment A on January 20, 2004. Subsequently, Applicants checked PAIR, and after noticing no change in the status of the Application, Applicants contacted Examiner Halpern by telephone. In response to the telephone conference with Examiner Halpern, Applicants resubmitted Amendment A in the instant February 18, 2004 document. Regardless of the foregoing and in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Applicants resubmit the "Amendments to the Claims" section to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 as amended on June 30, 2003.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Via Facsimile 703-872-9306
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